



TREE AD HOC COMMITTEE
MEETING NOTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 13, 2016
3:00 – 5:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBER
280 MADISON AVE N
BAINBRIDGE ISLAND, WA 98110

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Sarah Blossom, Kol Medina, Ron Peltier, Mack Pearl
COBI STAFF: Jennifer Sutton, Josh Machen, Barry Loveless, Gary Christensen
PUBLIC: Robert Dashiell, Jonathan Davis, Charles Schmid

The meeting was convened at 3:10 pm. The March 30, 2016 meeting notes were approved without any changes.

Public Works Director Barry Loveless gave a presentation about Low Impact Development (LID) techniques and described how implementing LID fully means a paradigm shift in planning development. A site assessment should be completed prior to a specific development plan being put together, and the assessment should drive the design of the development, to ensure that LID techniques are utilized and not precluded through a development. The LID requirements are required to be adopted by the end of 2016, as part of the city's National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, which is required by the federal Clean Water Act. The LID requirements are housed with the 2012 WA State DOE Stormwater Manual.

The Committee members asked questions of Director Loveless. After the LID requirements are adopted, development will have to meet the requirements unless the development can show infeasibility. The committee wondered how "in-feasibility" could be proven, and ultimately, who would that decision maker be, and is cost a reason to determine "in-feasibility". Director Loveless indicated that LID methods are constantly improving, for instance, a study has demonstrated that 12" of soil amendments can hold 91% of water runoff over a concrete base. The resultant LID requirements will need to consider the health of trees slated for preservation.

Mack Pearl commented that it is important that the City's LID regulations should emphasize preservation of the existing natural system where possible as a better option than having to bring in new soil amendments. A comment has been made that the LID goals and policies in the draft Comprehensive Plan need to support the LID results that we want to achieve. Planning Director Gary Christensen affirms that trees have a myriad of holistic benefits and provide many ecosystem services. The Committee indicated that changes should not be considered to the Subdivision code until the LID municipal code work is completed. The Committee will next review the Vegetation Management Chapter, BIMC 16.22.

The next meeting was set for Wednesday April 27 from 2:30-4pm. The Administrative Manual agenda item was skipped at the meeting, and forwarded on to the meeting on April 27.

Notes Approved: April 27, 2016